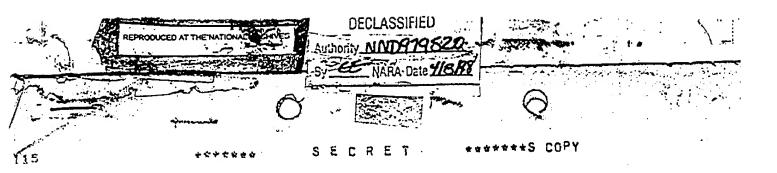
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TO THE WHITE HOUSE

S E C R E T/SENSITIVE/HANDLE VIA VOYAGER CHANNELS

PEKING 145

21 NOVEMBER 1975

101

BRENT SCONCROFT/JERRY JONES

THE WHITE HOUSE

FROM:

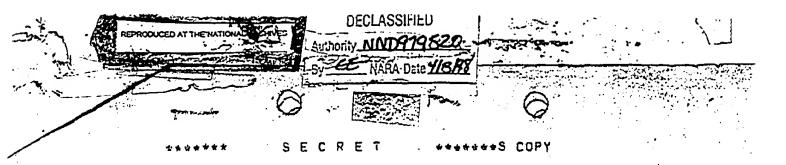
RED CAYANEY DICK SOLOMON

HASH -138, 139 OUR FIRST DAY OF WORKING DISCUSSIONS WITH THE CHINESE ON THE HEF: ORGANIZATION OF THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT HAVE GONE EXCEPTIONALLY GIVEN THE BACKGROUND OF UNRESPONSIVE AND ACERBIC SKOCTHLY. EXCHANGES WE HAD WITH THIS GOVERNMENT IN LATE OCTOBER AND EARLY HOVEMBER, WE HAVE AN ALMOST EERIE FEELING OF UNREALITY. CAN THE HIGH LEVEL OF COOPERATION AND ACCORD THAT HE ARE NOW REACHING WITH THESE PEOPLE ON THE DETAILS OF THE VISIT BE ONE REFLECTION OF THE MODD THE PRESIDENT CAN EXPECT? OR ARE WE BEING SET UP FOR PRESSURE TACTICS, SUCH AS SECRETARY KISSINGER ENCOUNTERED DURING HIS VISIT CAFTER THE FIRST TWO DAYS OF RATHER CORDIAL HELCOME, DURYNG WHICH THERE HAS HARDLY AN INKLING OF WHAT WAS TO COME THE FINAL EVENING), MY OWN ESTIMATE IS THAT, HAVING DECIDED TO PROCEED WITH THE VISIT DESPITE OUR AREAS OF POLICY DIFFERENCE AND THE CABINET CHANGES OF THE FIRST FEW DAYS OF THE MONTH, THE CHINESE HAVE DECIDED TO PLAY THE VISIT IN A CORRECT AND

EVEN SOMEWHAT CORDIAL MANNER. SENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE PRESIDENT'S ITINERARY HAS REVEALED THAT BOTH HE AND THE CHINESE HAVE INDEPENDENTLY COME TO MUCH THE SAME SENSE OF HOW TO STRUCTURE THE VISIT. WITH REGARD TO ITS SUBSTANTIVE ELEMENTS, PROTOCOL CHIEF CHU CHIUAN-HSIEN RESPONDED POSITIVELY TO THE SUGGESTION OF THREE SUB-STANTIVE SESSIONS (ONE PER DAY) BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND VICE FREMIER. FOLLOWING GUIDANCE IN YOUR WASHINGTON 138, WE PROVIDED A LIST OF PROPOSED PARTICIPANTS ON THE U.S. SIDE FOR THE PRESIDENTIS SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS, CHU ALSO INDICATED THERE HOULD BE NO PROBLEM WITH THE SECRETARY SCHEDULING A PRESS CONFERENCE AFTER THE FAREHELL BANQUET ON THURSDAY EVENING. INDICATED, MITH APPROPRIATE OCCIDENTAL SCRUTABILITY, THAT THE

PRESIDENT'S PREFERENCE WAS THAT THERE BE NO SUBSTANTIVE

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DISCUSSIONS ON THE MONDAY OF HIS ARRIVAL IN PEKING, GIVEN THE LONG FLIGHT FROM ALASKA. PER YOUR WASHINGTON 139, NO REPEAT NO MENTION WAS MADE OF POSSIBLE MEETINGS BETWEEN THE SECRETARY AND FOREIGN MINISTER TO DISCUSS A PUBLIC DOCUMENT. THE CHINESE DID NOT RAISE THIS ISSUE.

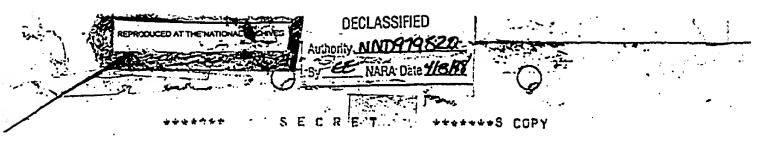
DURING A RELCOMING LUNCHEON, INTERPRETER NANCY TANG PROBED A BIT REGARDING OUR INTENTIONS FOR THE FOCUS OF THE PRESIDENTIS DISCUSSIONS. I REPLIED THAT IN VIEW OF THE SECRETARY'S RECENT VISIT TO PEKING, BOTH SIDES UNDERSTOOD CLEARLY THEIR RESPECTIVE AREAS OF COHMON VIEW AND THEIR END OF PAGE 1 DIFFERENCES, AND THUS HAD A FAIRLY CLEAR IDEA OF WHAT COULD AND COULD NOT BE ACCOMPLISHED ON THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT. I SAID THAT DUR FEELING HAS THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT FOR THE PRESIDENT TO GET A PERSONAL FEEL FOR THE THINKING OF CHINESE LEADERS ON VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL AND BILATERAL ISSUES, AND FOR THE CHINESE TO UNDERSTAND HOW THE PRESIDENT HIMSELF APPROACHED THE FULL RANGE OF GUESTIONS THAT HAD BEEN DISCUSSED ON PREVIOUS VISITS BY THE SECRETARY. I SAID HE BELIEVED IT WAS IMPORTANT TO SUSTAIN THE DIALOGUE BEGUN IN 1971 AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF OUR THO GOVERNMENTS. MISS TANG GAVE NO HINT OF ANY SHIFT IN PEKING'S RECENT POSITIONS, AND --RATHER SURPRISINGLY--DID NOT PROBE AT ALL DN THE RECENT CABINET CHANGES ON OUR SIDE.

4. THE CHIMESE APPEAR TO BE STRUCTURING THE PUBLIC AT-MOSPHERICS OF THIS VISIT TO BE RATHER SIMILAR TO THOSE OF PRESIDENT KIZONIS TRIP, ALTHOUGH PERHAPS WITH SOME SLIGHTLY GREATER DEGREE OF "NORMALCY," THE AIRPORT ARRIVAL CEREMONY APPEARS TO BE A REPEAT PERFORMANCE OF THE 1972 VERSION, ALTHOUGH THE CHINESE HAVE READILY AGREED TO THIRD COUNTRY AMBASSADORS FORMING A RECEPTION LINE AT THE AIRPORT (ON THE GARIS OF INQUIRIES TO USLO WE EXPECT THERE MAY BE AN ESTIMATED 35, PERHAPS MORE, OUT TO GREET THE PRESIDENT) AND OUR LIAISON AT THE SAME TIME THEY HAVE INDICATED THAT OFFICE PERSONNEL. THERE WOULD BE NO UNUSUAL CROND ACTIVITY ALONG THE ROUTE OF THE PREDIDENT'S MOTORCADE INTO THE GUEST HOUSE TO CONVEY SOME SENSE OF ACTIVE PUBLIC INTEREST OR WARMTH OF THE VISIT. TWO OTHER NOTABLE STRANS IN THE HIND SUGGESTING A POSSIBLY MORE ACTIVE CHINESE RECEPTION WERE WORD THAT CHU TEH, THE 89 YEAR OLD MILITARY HERO OF THE CIVIL WAR PERIOD AND CURRENT CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS, IS LIKELY TO BE THE RANKING PERSON AT THE GREAT HALL OF THE PEOPLE FOR THE WELCOMING BANQUET, AND PROTOCOL CHIEF CHUIS HINT THAT THE CHINESE SIDE MIGHT LIKE TO GIVE A "SMALL PRIVATE DINNER" FOR THE PRESIDENT DNE EVENING. WE DID NOT PROBE TO SEE WHO THE HOST OF SUCH A DINNER HOULD BE, BUT PRESUMABLY IT HOULD BE VICE PREMIER TENG. CHE ARE NOT AWARE THAT THE CHAIRMAN HAS GIVEN SUCH DINNERS FOR STATE VISITORS OF LATE, AND PREMIER CHOU DOES NOT APPEAR HEALTHY ENOUGH TO BE THE HOST.)

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5. AUGASSADOR OUGH HAS REQUESTED A ONE-HOUR MEETING IN PRIVATE WITH THE PRESIDENT. APPARENTLY HE ALREADY HAS APPROVAL FOR SUCH BASED OF RECENT PROPE CALL.

TO UTAGE OF THE NUMBERS OF PRESS CONTINUES TO BE A THORNY PROBLEM, HONEVER, THIS IS DUE MOSTLY TO PRESSURE FROM U.S. MEDIA AND ROSENBERGER AND NOT PRO. HOPE TO RESOLVE UNREALISTIC, PIPSONNEL REDUESTS PRIOR TO END OF BUSINESS TOHORROW.

. IF PAGGRESS CONTINUES, ANTICIPATE NO PROBLEM IN PROVIDING A COMPLETE, PROPOSED SCHEDULF TO YOU ON OUR DEPARTURE FROM PRC.

THE OF PAGE 2

S. FOR JONES: PRC HILITARY BAND HILL PROVIDE ENTERTAINMENT FOR BOTH U.S. AND PRO DINNERS. THEY WILL PLAY A COMBINATION OF HAF. AND PRO MUSIC AT EACH! MEED SHEET MUSIC FOR APPROMINATELY TEM PEPERT TEN U.S. SONGS SUITABLE FOR PLAYING AS BACKGROUND MODEL BY DANG IN THE GREAT HALL, MUSIC NOT TOO LIVELY BUT MITH STRONG BRAGS IS PROBABLY DEST. REQUEST YOU CONTACT MARY SIGHER AGAD IN DEDER THAT SHE MAY GET SHEET MUSIC, ADDRESSED TO GOB SUGDUIN, ONTO THE WHCA C-141 AIRCRAFT THAT LEAVES TEMEDIATELY. YOUR URGENT ATTENTION TO THIS MATTER APPRECIATED. PLEASE HAVE FIGHER ADVISE CAVANCY BY CABLE OF DISPOSITION OF SHEET MUSIC.

S. PARH REGARDS.

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